

are well researched and well documented. The effects of torture will cascade down through the generations and negatively affect the mental health of the children and even grandchildren of those who endure torture. The effects of torture will ripple through our cities weakening the ties that bind us together, and bolstering the barriers that keep us apart. The consequences of torture represent a public health problem which only grow without care, and prevent hardworking, talented people from being able to fully-integrated, productive, participating members of our communities.

I invite all of my colleagues and all Americans to recommit themselves today, on the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, and everyday to the eradication of the use of torture throughout the world wherever it may be used. The consequences of torture for individuals, families and communities are far too heinous to not be condemned and spoken against.

Today, I am happy to be able to commend the important work and the successes of Survivors of Torture, International. This non-profit organization, made up of concerned San Diegans has provided direct medical, mental health, legal and social services to more than 500 torture survivors in the greater San Diego area. Furthermore, this organization has worked to train hundreds of doctors, nurses, attorneys, teachers, clergy, and mental health professionals to work with torture survivors as well. They have committed themselves to building a San Diego where torture survivors do not suffer in silence, but have access to the assistance the need to become healthy, productive and self-sufficient Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MILDRED "MILLIE" JEFFREY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey, a pioneer who was at the forefront of our country's most powerful social and political movements. Millie passed away in March, and on Saturday she will be honored at her beloved Wayne State University in Detroit.

Millie once said, "the secret to change, that is change for the better, starts with involvement." No one lived that mantra more than Millie. She was a powerful voice for our Nation's workers, fighting for their right to organize and to ensure fair treatment in the workplace. Millie marched in the South with Dr. King, and trained other civil rights activists as they worked to break down racial barriers. As a leading feminist, Millie worked tirelessly to open the doors for equality of future women leaders. She was the guiding force in the effort to nominate Geraldine Ferraro as Walter Mondale's running mate in 1984. Four years ago, President Clinton awarded Millie the Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor.

The Reuther family brought Millie to Michigan, and it is the place she called home for over 5 decades. Many people don't know this, but Millie was, in fact, an elected official in our State, serving 16 years on the Wayne State

Board of Governors. She loved living on campus, showing visitors "her neighborhood" and interacting with the students. She took great pride in watching the election of the first woman Senator from Michigan, DEBBIE STABENOW, and the first woman Governor, Jennifer Granholm. Many of today's leaders count Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey as their mentor and friend. I was personally enriched by her example, her endless energy, and her friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Millie and her contributions to Michigan and our Nation.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PASSAGE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I commend my colleague, Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, for authoring H. Res. 676 and ensuring that this Congress appropriately marks the passage of the most comprehensive civil rights legislation in our Nation's history.

This year our Nation has honored and celebrated several extraordinary accomplishments that were born of the Civil Rights Movement. Last month we observed the 50th anniversary of the May 19, 1954, *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. That landmark decision not only struck down the doctrine of "separate, but equal" and desegregated public schools. It ultimately led to the passage of key federal legislation that desegregated every segment of our society—the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

In every real sense, the 1964 Act was a response to the Civil Rights Movement sweeping the country. This Act could not have been achieved without the tireless effort of the great, civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It was Dr. King that motivated hundreds of thousands of activists—of all colors—to demand that this Nation realize equality for all. It was because of his leadership that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was conceptualized and implemented.

The Act, which was signed into law on July 2, 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson, established safeguards and legal remedies to combat both the de jure and de facto discrimination that plagued minorities in almost every aspect of their lives.

First, and foremost, the Act moved to ensure an equal right to vote. The unequal application of voter registration requirements that effectively disenfranchised millions of African-Americans—poll taxes, literacy tests, grandfather clauses—was deemed unlawful in Title I of the Act. This provision made state and local governments accountable to their citizens and opened the path for equal political participation.

Titles II and III of the Act created a federal remedy to fight discrimination in public accommodations. Through these provisions, the Attorney General had the appropriate means to obtain injunctive relief and bring suit in in-

stances where equal access to a public facility had been denied. The lunch counter sit-ins and marches now had real effect in that the federal government could intervene to ensure equal treatment in society, regardless of race or other factors.

The language of "all deliberate speed" in the *Brown* decision was given meaning, as the federal government now had the tools in Title IV of the Act to end segregation in public schools. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 would serve as strong legislative policy against discrimination in public schools and colleges because it stood on the shoulders of the profound *Brown* decision, in which Chief Justice Warren, writing for a unanimous court, declared that "in the field of education, the doctrine of 'separate, but equal' has no place."

More broadly, under Title V of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Commission on Civil Rights, established in 1957, was provided with additional guidance in its charge to study, investigate, and report on civil rights policy.

Title VI of the Act protects persons from discrimination based on their race, color, or national origin in programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. This provision has been broadly used to ensure that entities receiving federal funds cannot deny service, provide different services, or segregate or separately treat individuals.

The Title VII provision of the Act would grow to become one of its most important and extensively utilized provisions. Going beyond its impact in the racial and ethnic minority community, Title VII acknowledged that sex discrimination in the workplace was a major problem and would be widely used to ensure protections for women in the workplace.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which was also created in the 1964 Act to serve as the premier vanguard of workplace discrimination, had its authority enhanced with amendments in 1972 and 1991.

In 1972, the EEOC was given the right to sue non-government respondents and the federal government, state and local governments, as well as educational institutions, were made subject to Title VII. The 1991 amendments allowed plaintiffs to recover fees and costs in suits in which they prevailed, as well as entitled plaintiffs to recover compensatory and punitive damages in intentional employment discrimination suits.

INJUSTICES REMAIN IN 2004

Without doubt, substantial progress toward equality has been made as a result of the passage of the 1964 Act, but there remains substantial work. I can recount a list of sobering statistics in the realm of employment, education, healthcare, and the political process:

In terms of employment, the average white woman earns only 73 cents for every dollar earned by the average white man. The average African American woman earns just 63 cents to every dollar earned by the average white man.

With regard to education, today, sadly, most schools have become resegregated. In the 2001–2002 school year, the Civil Rights Project found that the average African American attended a school where minorities formed almost 70 percent of the student body. The average Latino school child attended a school that was 71 percent minority. By contrast, the average white student attended a school where whites composed 79 percent of the student body.